for the past several decades for supplying coal to the domestic consumers with Dal-tonganj Coal Merchant's Association, Calcutta, Calcutta Coal Holders Association, Sealdah, Ballyganj Coal Depot Holder Federation and Ketla Railway Coal Depot Holders Association ;

(b) whether it is a fact that because of non-supply of coal by the Coal India Limited, the Burnpur Steel Plant was supplying 4200 wagons annually for supply of bridge coal, which was 50 per cent less than before ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Burnpur Steel Plant is not able to supply even 5000 tonnes of bridge Coal per month in place of 40,000 tonnes as a result of which small traders have been suffering ; and

(d) whether Government propose to make arrangements for the supply of 40,000 tonnes of bridge coal per month from the Bokaro Steel Plant with a full compliment of wagons in order to save the traders from doom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARIUN) : (a) to (d) The information is bing collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allocating Railway Wagons

1084. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH :

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Member (Traffic) is not allocating railway wagons to small parties, but is allocating them to big traders in connivance with the Zonal General Managers;

(b) whether it is a fact that earlier, two/three traders used to combine for loading their goods in one wagon and in order to encourage this practice, the railways were giving them 50 per cent concession as against those who were hiring a full-rate and whether the rates have now been enhanced four times because of which the traders with small capital are suffering ; and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps to provide relief to the small traders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Purchasing Cement Sleepers

1085. SHRI RAM AWADHESH iSINGH :

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the private and public companies from whom cement sleepers are being purchased by Govt;

(b) the number of railway bridges under construction at present, zone-wise and division-wise ;

(c) the details of the bridges constructed during the last three years and the bridges proposed to be constructed during the Eighth Plan period ;

(d) the name of the parties and the details of the works awarded to them and whether it is a fact that the Member (Civil Engineering) in connivance with the Zonal General Managers and Chief Engineers has awarded works to L-II parties resulting in loss of millions of rupees to Government; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to get the matter investigated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Concrete sleepers are currently purchased from 60 Private Companies and 1 Public Sector Company.

(b) 449 bridges are under construction in replacement of the old bridges. Zone-wise break-up is given below :—

Railway	No. of Bridges
Central	72
Eastern	96
Northern	16
North Eastern	13
Northeast Frontier	46
Southern	48
South Central	95
South Eastern	27
Western	36
TOTAL :	449

Division-wise information is being collected and will be laid on the Table o1 the House.

Bridges being built as part of new mines doublings and gauge conversion projects art a part of the respective projects and their number varies from time to time.

(c) Precise number of bridges to be taken for construction in replacement of old ones is decided from year to year on the basis of annual survey and inspec tion. Their number for last three years as follows :

1989-90	....	482
1990-91	....	332
1991-92	....	325

(d) No parties have been awarded contracts by the Member Engineering. Contracts are awarded on the basis of lowest bidders among whose bids are valid and are adjudged competent by the Tender Committees to carry out the work on the basis of their capability and financial status.

(e) Does not arise.

Track Electrification in the Railways

1086. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the zone-wise details of the tracks electrified during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the target of electrification fixed for the Eighth Five Year Plan ;

(b) the names of the parties and the amounts paid to them during the Seventh Plan for electrification ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Member (Electrical) after accepting heavy commissions awarded works to companies which were black-listed and awarded works to L-1I instead of L-I parties ; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to investigate the matter and if so, by when, if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached. *{See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) (i)

Zonal Railways	Section	Route Kms.
1. Central	Dholpur-Gwalior-Itarsi, Nagpur-Wardha-Balharshah and Bhusawal-Badnera.	983
2. Eastern	Chandrapura Complex	39
3. Northern	Tundla-Yamuna Bridge	18
4. Southern	Katpadi-Jolarpettai-Morapur	140
5. South Central	Balharshah-Vijayawada and Krishna Canal-Guntur-Tenali	505
6. South Eastern	Chandrapura Complex, Champa-Gevra Road, Koraput-Damanjodi and Durg-Paniajob	239
7. Western	Godhra-Mathura, Nagda-Palsora Makarwan and Bayana-Yamuna Bridge	888
	TOTAL FOR VII Plan :	2,812